

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

GILA COUNTY, ARIZONA

Date: June 14, 2005

JOSÉ M. SANCHEZ

Chairman

STEVEN L. BESICH

Clerk of the Board

TOMMIE C. MARTIN

Vice-Chairman

By: Marilyn Brewer

Deputy Clerk

SHIRLEY L. DAWSON

Member

Gila County Courthouse
Globe, Arizona

PRESENT: Jose M. Sanchez, Chairman; Tommie C. Martin, Vice-Chairman; Shirley L. Dawson, Member; Steven L. Besich, County Manager/Clerk; and, Bryan Chambers, 2nd Chief Deputy County Attorney.

The Gila County Board of Supervisors met in Work Session at 10:00 a.m. this date. Steve Besich led the Pledge of Allegiance and Reverend Lyle Johnston of St. Paul's United Methodist Church delivered the Invocation.

Richard (Rick) Powers, Globe District Engineer for the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), presented a yearly update of ADOT's issues pertaining to the Globe District. Mr. Powers thanked the Board for the invitation to present. He introduced Matt Moul, who is the Resident Engineer responsible for the construction at Roosevelt Lake, the paving on State Route (SR) 70, and the repairs at SR 170. Mr. Powers began a PowerPoint presentation by stating that ADOT has a lot of history in the Globe District and has been the leader in transportation from the past to the future. He stated the Globe District covers a wide area with Globe being located in the center lower portion of the District as shown on the District Map. The Globe District covers from almost to the Renaissance Festival Area on SR 60 to the southwest side and up SR 61 to Zuni and Hannigan's Meadow, and then out to just past San Carlos on SR 70. Mr. Powers stated that under the section entitled 'Globe

District Demographics,' there are 303 bridges, plus seven more being built. This District has a \$400,000 administrative budget, \$8 million maintenance budget, \$2 million construction budget for employee wages, and averages a \$20 million budget for projects. He stated that the Globe District is set up by the northern country which includes Show Low and the White Mountain area, and the southern portion which includes Globe, Miami and the Winkelman area. In his presentation, Mr. Powers showed the scenic and historic roads within the Globe District which include the Apache Trail, Coronado Trail, Gila-Pinal Road (to Phoenix), White Mountain scenic roads, and the newly designated SR 288, the Pine scenic highway. The next photo shown was of Ingo Radicke, who is the Gila County consultant to ADOT. Mr. Powers stated that Mr. Radicke is doing an outstanding job representing Gila County. The next item for discussion was the '5-Year Program-Resource Allocation' which showed a \$3 billion State budget program over a five-year period. Gila County will receive \$92 million in projects which does include the work on Highway 260 up north. Many of the projects will be deferred to 2007 for lack of funding. He stated that in the handouts presented to the Board there is a map of the Projects for FY 2006-2010. Mr. Powers then showed projects recently completed or currently being completed along with photos of same, as follows:

- SR 188-Corridor Improvements in which the section toward Roosevelt Lake has been finished. The middle section of the project is currently under construction for \$25 million and will be completed by October or November 2005. The other section was just awarded to F & F Construction at \$9 million and will be approved by the ADOT Board at the July meeting.
- SR 188-The old SR 88 from Globe to Roosevelt was dedicated and renamed in 2004 as the Senator Hardt Highway, which was the old Apache Trail. It was renumbered because the old Apache Trail is being torn out and removed at the request of the U.S. Forest Service, and the new replacement is now known as the Senator Hardt Highway.

- SR 188-Wheatfields Phase 1 and 2 is that area driven on to get to Roosevelt Lake. This was completed in 2001.
- SR 188-Tonto National Monument to Resort Road opened in June 2003. ADOT received an award known as a 'Shoulder to Shoulder Partnering Award' presented by Lee Baeza of the Tonto Monument.
- SR 188-Resort Road to Devore Wash is a project that began in 2003 and is currently ongoing with anticipated completion by fall 2005. The bridges are completed and the paving will begin tonight. The paving is being done at night because of another project at Highway 70 and both projects have the same supplier.
- US 60/70 McMillen Wash to Junction SR 77 was the project recently completed in conjunction with the new Globe Desert Middle School which was completed in August 2004.
- SR 170 Reconstruction and Turn Back Project ran from Peridot to San Carlos. The project began in January 2004 and was completed February 2005. The road was transferred to the San Carlos Apache Tribe and is now Indian Route 170. It entailed new construction and a loop road was built for access into Basha's Shopping Center.

The next photo shown was entitled 'Rain in Arizona?' and Mr. Powers spoke on the rain received the first part of this year. He also told about the flooding at Roosevelt and on SR 288 on September 9, 2003, which was a 1,000-year event according to the United States Forest Service. It caused significant damage and cost over \$1.5 million in damage to ADOT, and photos were shown reflecting some of the damage. In July 2004, girders were being hauled out to SR 188 project and one of them was lost during haulage. It took out a good portion of the bridge and a barrier. ADOT put up a temporary barrier and to remove the girder, they did a unique thing that saved \$190,000. Royden Construction Company was the contractor supplying the girders, so they worked out a deal with ADOT whereby they submitted plans, and agreed to do the work themselves. This saved on design time, bidding, and was done at

Royden's cost. The next photo shown was of a huge rock that fell on US 60. Mr. Powers then spoke on the snow received last winter which was mostly in northern Gila County. In addressing the slide entitled 'Globe District Maintenance Program', Mr. Powers stated that the Maintenance Program for this District includes 2,507 route miles and 20 State routes so there are a lot of miles to cover. He showed a map of the seven maintenance camps that handle the remote areas. The next slide was 'Maintenance Expenditures for FY 2003-2004', with the major items being 34% for pavement, 13% for drainage which will be higher this year, and 21% on ice and snow control, which for this year was 28% because of the amount of snow in the White Mountains. He stated that his office receives a lot of questions pertaining to the next item, the 'Corridor Planning' for US 60 on the Gonzales Pass Project. ADOT is currently underway on the geotechnical investigation, and updates have been published in the newspapers to keep the public apprised of the progress on this Project. It is anticipated that the plans will be completed this fall with advertising for bids at the end of this year or first of next year on the Gonzales Pass Phase which begins at Florence Junction and extends to just this side of Queen Creek. He then spoke on the Florence Junction Interchange Project which was completed in 2004. This Project won two awards which were the 2004 Marvin Black Partnering Award, a national prestigious award, and the 2004 American Public Works Project of the Year Award for the \$2 million to \$10 million category. In reference to the slide entitled 'Corridor Improvements-Segment Funding for Construction', Mr. Powers stated that ADOT is currently working on the completion of the segment from Florence Junction to Superior, which has now been funded under the last programming cycle. The only portion remaining of that segment is Section 6, Town of Superior. Other improvements planned for US 60 include climbing lanes, a project through Devil's Canyon, a passing lane at the Pinto Valley Mine turnoff, and a scoping study on the remaining portion of US 60. He stated a Final Feasibility Report was completed October 2004 and a copy was given to the County and City and is also

available on ADOT's website. The report consists of options being considered, but not actively pursued due to costs and other issues. Mr. Powers wanted to dispel any rumors by stating, *"We're not looking to bypass the Globe area at this time. What we're going to be looking at is tying into the four lanes here in Miami."* On the slide entitled 'Project Limits,' this study begins at MP 226 in Superior and ends at MP 252 in Globe and is broken down into segments. He stated that ADOT's focus is on segments A-D, with not much being done on segment F. The first segment is at Superior, the current route, which is one of the considered alternatives being looked at by ADOT, but the problem is that tunnels would have to be constructed through the pass. Another alternative would require tunnels as well. These alternatives will be very costly to build and the only most cost effective and feasible solution seems to be going up through the canyon. Resolution Copper Company is looking at these alternatives because of the location of its property in relation to the proposed routes, which were shown on the map. ADOT wants to use as much of the existing roadway as possible and then build a new alignment to meet in the north. The current route going through the Top of the World would be utilized, and ADOT would try to build the new alignment, as well, through that route. The map showing the section in the Pinto Valley area also shows a new alignment being considered to parallel the existing road, while still trying to utilize the existing highway as much as possible. The total cost of this project was estimated at \$673,640,000 and will probably be \$1 billion now in current costs with most of the costs being in segments D and E. The biggest challenges will be to get through the pass by Superior and the mountain range to tie into the four to five lane section in Miami. Mr. Powers spoke about other projects going on the area which include the following: 1) completion of the truck ramp in the canyon; finished a north wall in Salt River Canyon where a big slide has been stabilized; looking at identifying and prioritizing rock fall areas; completion of the project on SR 70 by the new Globe Middle School; SR 77 project near Winkelman being designed; and, SR 77, north of Winkelman, at

MP 141 and 144 where BLM is funding the upgrade of those recreational sites. In reference to the Historical Construction Program, Mr. Powers showed some of the big projects still remaining, as well as some of the Tentative FY 2006-2010 projects eligible to be programmed during the next cycle beginning this fall which include the following: the next section of Picket Post at a cost of \$12 million to be approved this month; the railroad overpass for \$3.4 million and \$340,000 for the design with the funding of both already approved; passing lanes in the Heber-Show Low area at a cost of \$300,000 for the design; \$3 million to do the DCR from the Superior to Miami section of US 60 for road improvements; and, a study on SR 77 between Snowflake and Show Low to construct the complete road to four lanes. He advised that a map of the projects to be scoped was also included in the handout. Mr. Powers gave ADOT's Globe website address to access all this information including maps and plans, which is located at:

<http://www.azdot.gov/Highways/Districts/Globe/index.asp>. He also stated that in the handout provided to the Board is a traffic impact analysis which can be shared when meeting with developers in the area, and also a brochure for the Globe District permits and requirements. In concluding his report, Mr. Powers stated that the Board of Supervisors will soon be invited to a grand opening ceremony for the SR 188 Project, as well as a ground-breaking ceremony for the Gonzales Pass Project on the Superior side. Vice-Chairman Martin inquired, *"What is the ultimate completion potential of Florence Junction to Globe?"* Mr. Powers stated that there is one section of the program remaining at a cost of about \$9 million if ADOT can come to an agreement with the Town of Superior as there is not a consensus at this time. He stated, *"It will be a good investment because the time frame of getting from Superior to Globe is so far out that the five lanes will be well used, well served and not a waste of taxpayer dollars."* ADOT's recommendation is to move forward and this would tie into the ramps currently there with one lane going to Kearny and the other to Phoenix. Vice-Chairman Martin then asked, *"Are we looking at 2020 to finish to*

Globe or 2015? Mr. Powers stated that he wouldn't venture to guess because of the current funding, and nothing can be done until the DCR is completed. There is approximately \$90 million to \$100 million available statewide that is used to fund all the projects for all the districts, including major projects such as Hoover Dam. He stated that this will be his last year on the State Programming Committee that puts together a 5-Year Plan to decide which projects will be funded. Normally, they use each district's top one or two projects until all the funds are depleted, and the Board also has projects it wants included. Mr. Powers thanked the Board, Ingo Radicke, and County employees for the help they've given to ADOT. Mr. Stratton, Public Works Division Director, inquired about the latest ADT (Average Daily Traffic) on US 60. Mr. Powers stated that ADOT did a count a few years ago and the count was approximately 28,000 to 32,000 and peak periods ran up to 35,000 per day. On behalf of the Board, Chairman Sanchez thanked Mr. Powers for his presentation. Chairman Sanchez stated that he attended the Roads and Streets Conference in Tucson where 1,100 delegates were in attendance. He was amazed at all of the different elements, all the specs, and all the standards required by ADOT for safety and liability. Chairman Sanchez also inquired if ADOT was able to recover any funds from FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) or other agencies for the 1,000 year flood that occurred at Roosevelt. Mr. Powers stated they did not receive any funds as the flood was not designated as a national disaster; it was only designated as a County disaster.

Ellen Kretsch, President of the Globe-Miami Regional Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development Corporation (GMRCC/EDC), presented an Annual Report to the Board of Supervisors. She began her PowerPoint presentation by showing the GMRCC/EDC's mission statement which includes slides entitled 'Business Support', 'Tourism,' and 'New Residents'. Under economic development of the Business Support slide, Ms. Kretsch spoke about the twenty new businesses to the area in the past year, businesses that were

expanded, business recruitment, along with counseling and referrals. In her next category of Tourism, she stated that this will be the 25th year for Apache Day. In 2004 Apache Day included over 100 vendors with approximately 12,000 visitors. She also stated some of the other events promoting tourism to the area included the 2005 Historic Home Tour and EXTreme OFF ROAD which brought in over 3,000 people in spite of the rainy weather. She also spoke on many of the other events in the community throughout the year that the GMRCC/EDC helps to support. Under New Residents are the sub-categories of comprehensive housing strategy and relocation requests. Ms. Kretsch stated that in focusing on housing, GMRCC/EDC wants to apply for a technical assistance grant to conduct a housing study in order to address the housing problem. She stated that 161 packets were mailed out in reference to relocation requests, and there were 697,000 hits on the website. Ms. Kretsch spoke about the strategic focus for 2004-2005 which includes land acquisition, stock car track, economic development, unification of the Town of Miami and City of Globe, Old West Gateway, and stable funding. In reference to the unification effort, which has been seven years in the making, a final report will be presented at a public hearing to be held next month. She stated that some of the statistics included the following: 1) visitors – 92,868; 2) calls – 7,921; 3) mail – 7,740; 4) website hits – 1,045,000 and of those 75,400 went within the website to look at the various pages; 5) members – 360 which includes a net gain of 18; and, 6) event visitors – 16,000. Ms. Kretsch gave the economic impact by stating that with 92,868 visitors at \$40 per visitor, the total was \$3.8 million in direct impact. She stated that by using the standard multiplier of 7, that figure would be \$26.6 million, and by using a multiplier of 4, which is what they use, that figure is \$15.2, for a total impact of \$19.2 million. Ms. Kretsch stated that the goals for 2005-2006 will include business support, diversified economic development and attracting visitors. She stated that the Economic Development Committee is working on an industrial park grant. Top sites have been identified for an industrial park, and work is being done with

Thomas Warren & Associates, consultant to the GMRCC/EDC on costs to develop the areas. Leads are being pursued through the Arizona Department of Commerce and Arizona Public Service or people walking through the door, as well as working closely with the colleges. Major events for the year included the following: Apache Day drawing 12,000 visitors and hoping for 14,000 next year; the Historic Home and Building Tour with 825 visitors in Globe and Miami's Tour with 125 visitors; EXTreme OFF ROAD in March and the hope of doubling the attendance. Ms. Kretsch stated that added events for the year included the Old Fashioned Independence Day Celebration which packed out the Little League Park and the Copper Festival in the Town of Miami. In addressing the issue of housing, she stated that land inventory changes all the time, but because of the need by developers and people wanting to relocate to this area, current land that is available must be known. On building inventory, the GMRCC/EDC works with the Downtown and Main Street Program to know what is available. Work also continues on the Comprehensive Housing Strategy program, with a meeting planned for July 12th. Ms. Kretsch stated that some of the strategic focus for 2005-2006 will be the industrial park, stable funding, Old West Gateway, Old Dominion Visitor Center, and the Bullion Plaza Cultural Center and Mining Museum in Miami. The Old Dominion Visitor Center is close to being completed; there are still some access questions and work to be done on signage. When completed, it will be a big draw for visitors interested in mining. Work also continues on the underground mining display at the Bullion Plaza Cultural Center. She stated that in addressing some of the major challenges, a lot of time was spent on transportation and highway access to this area, as well as the industrial zoning/park, housing (especially for senior citizens), fragmentation between/within the communities, and major partnerships. Ms. Kretsch stated that in reference to partnerships, Gila County advertising is now expanding to include Tonto Basin, Hayden/Winkelman, Payson and San Carlos. Ms. Kretsch named the 2005-2006 Officers, Board Members and Ex-Officio Board

Members of the GMRCC/EDC. She concluded her report by stating: “*Our main goal is to put the best foot forward for this area.*” Vice-Chairman Martin stated that the Board has set a date in September for an Economic Development Summit and that she would like to attend the next GMRCC/EDC meeting in order to explain the schedule and areas of discussion of the Summit. Ms. Kretsch stated the next meeting would be in July on the third Wednesday at 7:00 a.m. Mary Anne Moreno, Executive Director of GMRCC/EDC, advised that a newcomer packet is now available in their office and that it is a wonderful relocation tool. Chairman Sanchez thanked both Ms. Kretsch and Ms. Moreno for their presentation.

At this time each Board member and the Chief Administrator were presented the opportunity to give a brief summary of current events as allowed by A.R.S. §38-431.02(K).

There being no further business to come before the Board, Vice-Chairman Martin adjourned the meeting at 11:16 a.m.

José M. Sanchez, Chairman

ATTEST:

Steve L. Besich, County Manager/Clerk